

# CASE STUDY

## Hop Farms

DroneMate™  
EVERYTHING AERIAL

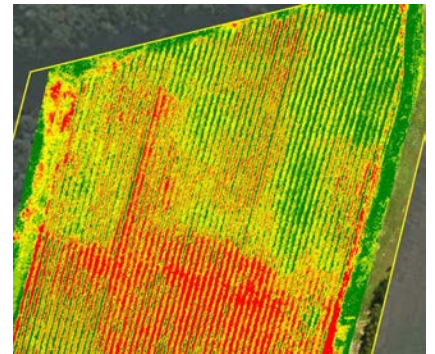


### Problem

Hops are a vigorous climbing vine that creates a dense mass of foliage, making it difficult to inspect over large areas. Problems with the crop stay hidden and can get worse, leading to poor yields.

### Approach

1. DroneMate was hired to provide NDVI plant health information for a large hop grower.
2. Using a standard DJI drone paired with a Sentera single NIR sensor, survey grids were flown over several hop gardens.
3. Within 24 hours all the plant health maps were delivered to the client.
4. DroneMate's preliminary analysis using Sentera's FieldAgent software showed one significantly underperforming area and another over-performing.



### Solution

Analytical tools in FieldAgent enabled the grower to split fields into management zones. The correlation of one zone with the irrigation pattern identified an unknown problem with the irrigation system.

Another zone showed extremely healthy plants that required early harvesting.

The client subsequently bought a DJI drone, Sentera sensor and FieldAgent software to fly, store and analyse their own surveys and images. The resulting maps and analysis are shared through FieldAgent.



A 4 hectare hop garden can be surveyed for RGB and NDVI in under 15 minutes, with analysis and management zones calculated within 24hrs. Quick resurveying allows comparison of before and after, i.e. the value of actions taken. These maps can be shared with anyone who has a web connection.

Talk to us about how we can help you enhance your farm decision making.

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